PLC’s at Lewis and Clark

2012-2013

One of the keys to successful implementation of effective PLC’s at Lewis and Clark is building in common prep-time for grade level teams to meet. Starting when Karen Allen was the Principal, a rotating specialist scheduling was established. A 4th “special” was added to the primary schedule so these all three teams (kindergarten, multiage 1-2, looping, and traditional 1st and 2nd) had a common prep-time.

With that foundation in place we began our PLC journey in the fall of 2011. That first year was a building year; getting in place the norms, building capacity, exploring expectations. I acquired 30 copies of *Learning by Doing* and my plan was to continue building capacity by having grade level PLC’s read, discuss, and reflect on how PLC’s could change the culture and effectiveness of Lewis and Clark. That plan failed as the books belonged to Title 1. I have since bought a *Comprehension and Collaboration* and have 16 teachers working in a book club reading and reflecting on how the inquiry model of curriculum delivery could change the culture and effectiveness at Lewis and Clark.

Our early out PLC time is committed to IB PYP with Kevin with some work on Common Core thrown in (see early out plan for 2012 –’13).

The schedule for “common prep-time PLC” for the rest of December and into January is as follows:

* Grade level PLC’s meet regularly once a week to continue to engage in the work of the guaranteed curriculum and common assessments. I sit in on PLC meeting once a month.
* Grade level PLC’s have read several articles about building and sustaining effective PLCs. Teams have discussed how the information in them will help them create a more effective PLC culture.
* As I continue to provide resources I will expect minutes for PLC meeting to reflect understandings and direction as a result of these resources.
* Grade level PLC’s will watch the Youtube video, *The Importance of PLCs.* (I will provide the link to this video to expedite the process). Grade level teams will submit a reflection to me before we go on Winter Break.
* By January 31, 2013 grade level PLC’s must have reviewed, refined, and documentation needs to be provided that a guaranteed curriculum is in place at all grade levels.
* PLCs have been working on common assessments in science and social studies. I expect at least one common assessment to be completed by the end of January in either science or social studies and a second common assessment, in the other subject, to be completed before spring break.